

all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:33 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1815. An act to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Lena Horne in recognition of her achievements and contributions to American culture and the civil rights movement.

H.R. 4089. An act to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing and shooting.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1815. An act to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Lena Horne in recognition of her achievements and contributions to American culture and the civil rights movement; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5691. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Silicic Acid, Sodium Salt etc; Tolerance Exemption" (FRL No. 9333-6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5692. A communication from the Manager of the BioPreferred Program, Office of Procurement and Property Management, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Designation of Product Categories for Federal Procurement" (RIN0599-AA14) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5693. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Division of Clear-

ing and Risk, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Customer Clearing Documentation, Timing of Acceptance for Clearing, and Clearing Member Risk Management" (RIN3038-0092, -0094) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 10, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5694. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Ann E. Rondeau, United States Navy, and her advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5695. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General John E. Sterling, Jr., United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5696. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5697. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to whether providing an annual allowance would increase the use of preventive health services among members of the Armed Forces and their family members; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5698. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to clinical quality management in the Military Health System; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5699. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Department of Defense Evaluation of the TRICARE Program: Access, Cost and Quality Fiscal Year (FY) 2012"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5700. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Logistics and Material Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to core depot-level maintenance and repair capability requirements and sustaining workloads; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5701. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the training of the U.S. Special Operations Forces with friendly foreign forces during fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5702. A communication from the Secretary of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (EELV) program and program baseline estimates; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5703. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule; Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 65) (Docket No. FEMA-2012-0003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5704. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Suspension of Community

Eligibility" ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA-2012-0003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5705. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 65) (Docket No. FEMA-2011-0002)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5706. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 65) (Docket No. FEMA-2012-0003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5707. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Addition of Certain Persons on the Entity List: Addition of Persons Acting Contrary to the National Security or Foreign Policy Interests of the United States" (RIN0694-AF43) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 16, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5708. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5709. A communication from the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2011 management reports; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5710. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA-2012-0003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 12, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5711. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations" ((44 CFR Part 67) (Docket No. FEMA-2012-0003)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 12, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5712. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to obligations and unobligated balances of funds provided for Federal-aid highway and safety construction programs during fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5713. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer

Protection Act of 1991" (CG Docket No. 02-278) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 12, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5714. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Export Administration Regulations (EAR): Export Control Classification Number 0Y521 Series, Items Not Elsewhere Listed on the Commerce Control List (CCL)" (RIN0694-AF17) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5715. A communication from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Interim Action" (RIN0648-BB89) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5716. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Energy (Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy), transmitting, pursuant to law, the semi-annual Implementation Report on Energy Conservation Standards Activities of the Department of Energy; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5717. A communication from the Director of the Sustainability Performance Office, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Department's Fleet Alternative Fuel Vehicle Acquisition Report for fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5718. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the cost of the Little Calumet River, Indiana, Local Flood Control and Recreation Project; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5719. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; South Dakota; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan" (FRL No. 9658-9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5720. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware; Amendments to the Handling, Storage, and Disposal of Volatile Organic Compounds Emissions; Automobile and Light-Duty Truck Coating Operations; Paper Coating; Coating of Flat Wood Paneling; Graphic Art Systems; and Industrial Cleaning Solvents" (FRL No. 9657-1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5721. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule en-

titled "Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Missouri: Prevention of Significant Deterioration; Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule; New Source Review Reform" (FRL No. 9657-8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5722. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hazardous Waste Technical Corrections and Clarifications Rule" (FRL No. 9659-7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5723. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Illinois; Small Container Exemption from VOC Coating Rules" (FRL No. 9651-5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5724. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan; Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District" (FRL No. 9652-2) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5725. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants from Coal- and Oil-Fired Electric Utility Steam Generating Units and Standards of Performance for Fossil-Fuel-Fired Electric Utility, Industrial-Commercial-Institutional, and Small Industrial-Commercial-Institutional Steam Generating Units; Correction" (FRL No. 9654-8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5726. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Quality Implementation Plans; Kentucky; Attainment Plan for the Kentucky Portion of the Huntington-Ashland 1997 Annual PM_{2.5} Nonattainment Area" (FRL No. 9657-4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5727. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Northern Sierra and Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District" (FRL No. 9659-8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5728. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Arizona State Imple-

mentation Plan, Pinal County Air Quality District" (FRL No. 9639-5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5729. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Update of Weighted Average Interest Rates, Yield Curves, and Segment Rates" (Notice 2012-28) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 10, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5730. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Nonconventional Source Fuel Credit, 2011 Section 45K Inflation Adjustment Factor and Section 45K Reference Price" (Notice 2012-30) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 10, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5731. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Alan Baer Revocable Trust v. United States" (AOD 2012-04) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 10, 2012; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5732. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act, a report relative to extending the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Bolivia Concerning the Imposition of Import Restrictions on Categories of Archaeological Material; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5733. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress: Plan to Reform the Medicare Wage Index"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5734. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2012-0037—2012-0041); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5735. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, U.S. Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the waiver of the restrictions contained in Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act of 1992; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5736. A communication from the Director of the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Examinations of Work Areas in Underground Coal Mines for Violations of Mandatory Health or Safety Standards" (RIN1219-AB75) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 16, 2012; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5737. A communication from the General Counsel, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Administrator, General Services Administration, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the

Senate on April 12, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5738. A communication from the Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's decision to enter into a contract with a private security screening company to provide screening services at Greater Rochester International Airport, Rochester, NY, Tupelo Regional Airport, Tupelo, MS and Key West International Airport, Key West, FL; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5739. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Certified Business Enterprise Expenditures of Public-Private Development Construction Projects for Fiscal Year 2011"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5740. A communication from the Rules Administrator, Federal Bureau of Prisons, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Inmate Communication with News Media: Removal of Byline Regulations" (RIN1120-AB49) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2012; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-70. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging Congress to adopt the measures and policies contained in the Save Arizona's Forest Environment (SAFE) Plan and provide for a temporary emergency suspension of the requirement to perform National Environmental Policy Act studies; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL No. 1001

To the Congress of the United States of America:

Your memorialist respectfully represents:

Whereas, the State of Arizona, its citizens and its communities have drastically suffered from catastrophic wildfires that devastated more than 850,000 acres of wildlife habitat, watersheds, timber, livestock forage and private property; and

Whereas, the water and air pollution from these catastrophic wildfires have negatively impacted human health and have endangered species and the human environment; and

Whereas, millions more acres of Arizona's forest lands face the threat of future catastrophic wildfires.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress adopt the measures and policies contained in the Save Arizona's Forest Environment (SAFE) Plan and provide for a temporary emergency suspension of the requirement to perform National Environmental Policy Act studies on forest thinning and timber and forage management activities in Arizona's forest lands that have suffered from or are threatened by future catastrophic wildfires.

2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit a copy of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-71. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging Congress to adequately fund the United States Forest Service in order to properly manage forests and grasslands and prohibit the Forest Service from acquiring and managing additional lands until the Forest Service demonstrates its ability to properly manage and protect forests; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL No. 1003

To the Congress of the United States of America:

Your memorialist respectfully represents:

Whereas, the United States Congress established the United States Forest Service in 1905 to provide quality water and timber for the nation's benefit; and

Whereas, over the years, the United States Congress has directed the United States Forest Service to manage more national forests and grasslands; and

Whereas, the President's fiscal year 2012 budget increased funding for land acquisition by \$26,360,000; and

Whereas, the President's fiscal year 2012 budget reduced funding for the Wildland Fire Management by \$396,675,000; and

Whereas, the President's fiscal year 2012 budget reduced budgeting for the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund by \$97,114,000; and

Whereas, in 2011, the total number of acres consumed by wildland fires on Arizona lands that are managed by the United States Forest Service was 878,540 out of the total of 981,189 acres that were burned in Arizona that year; and

Whereas, the United States Forest Service has existed for more than 100 years with the express purpose of managing public forests and grasslands; and

Whereas, the mission of the United States Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grassland.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of Representatives concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress adequately fund the United States Forest Service in order to properly manage forests and grasslands.

2. That the United States Congress prohibit the United States Forest Service from acquiring and managing additional lands until the Forest Service demonstrates its ability to properly manage and protect forests.

3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the Chief of the United States Forest Service, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-72. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona urging Congress to enact legislation making monies collected under the federal gas tax immediately available to the individual states to fund their transportation needs; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL No. 2004

To the Congress of the United States and the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation:

Your memorialist respectfully represents:

Whereas, the United States Department of Transportation was established by an act of Congress on October 15, 1966, and the department's first official day of operation was April 1, 1967; and

Whereas, the mission of the department is to "serve the United States by ensuring a

fast, safe, efficient, accessible and convenient transportation system that meets our vital national interests and enhances the quality of life of the American people, today and into the future"; and

Whereas, the main mission of the department has largely been fulfilled by the completion of the federal interstate highway system; and

Whereas, state and local governments are faced with difficult decisions regarding local transportation needs on a continuing and ever-increasing basis; and

Whereas, the federal motor fuel taxes charged to the citizens of Arizona are needlessly sent to the federal government before being returned to the state government; and

Whereas, federal restrictions, mandates and spending requirements prevent the citizens of Arizona from setting their own transportation priorities.

Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

1. That the United States Congress enact legislation making monies collected under the federal gas tax immediately available to the individual states to fund their transportation needs.

2. That the United States Congress enact legislation to cease the collection of motor fuel taxes in Arizona so that this state can collect and distribute the taxes without the delay caused by federal collection and disbursement.

3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.

POM-73. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico requesting a Congressional resolution requesting the United States postal service issue a commemorative stamp honoring the sesquicentennial anniversary of the battle of Glorieta pass in New Mexico and recognizing the importance of the battle; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL

Whereas, in January 1862, confederate General Henry Hopkins Sibley, with a brigade of two thousand six hundred Texans, invaded the territory of New Mexico with the intention of claiming the territory and the west for the confederacy; and

Whereas, the volunteers of the Texas confederate forces were victorious in defeating the union forces at the battle of Valverde on February 21, 1862, and shortly afterwards, on February 25, 1862, they captured Socorro, and on March 7, 1862, Albuquerque was captured; and

Whereas, the confederate forces captured Santa Fe on March 10, 1862, the capital having been moved earlier by the New Mexico territorial governor, the honorable Henry Connelly, to Las Vegas, New Mexico; and

Whereas, following these battlefield successes, the Texas confederate forces planned to conquer Fort Union and then march to Colorado to take over the mines located there; and

Whereas, from there, the forces intended to form an alliance with the Mormons and together take over the gold fields of California, which would have provided much needed capital for the confederacy; and

Whereas, the conquest of California would have additionally provided two sorely needed ports, free of union blockades; and

Whereas, the fulfillment of their plans would have severed the western territories